

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 127879
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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INRE-00 SSO-00 /106 R

DRAFTED BY STF:TDOUBLEDAY
APPROVED BY STF:LDJUNIOR
S/S-O RCASTRODALE

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O 210000Z MAY 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN NIACT IMMEDIATE
CINCLANT NORFOLK NIACT IMMEDIATE
CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN NIACT IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB NIACT IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000
SAC OFFUTT AB NEB NIACT IMMEDIATE
REDCOM MCDILL AFB FLA NIACT IMMEDIATE
COMJTF7A FT BRAGG NIACT IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 127879

AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI

SECRET STATE 127879

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOS, PINS, AEMR, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA SITREP NO. 12 1700 HOURS (EDT),
MAY 20, 1978

1. FOLLOWING IS FOR YOUR BACKGROUND AND FOR DISCREET USE
WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 127879

2. STATUS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. OUR CONSULATE IN
LUBUMBASHI HAS REPORTED THAT 10 AMERICANS HAVE BEEN
EVACUATED FROM KOLWEZI. THEY ARE REPORTED GENERALLY IN
GOOD CONDITION, EXCEPT FOR ONE WHO SUFFERED A LEG
WOUND. TWO OTHER AMERICANS HAVE BEEN REPORTED KILLED,
BUT THIS HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. WE HAVE NO WORD
ON THE OTHER AMERICANS OF THE TOTAL OF 13 WHO WERE IN
KOLWEZI.

3. SITUATION IN KOLWEZI. THE FRENCH REPORT THAT 200
KATANGANS ARE STILL HOLDING OUT IN A FACTORY ON THE
NORTH SIDE OF KOLWEZI, WHERE FIGHTING IS CONTINUING. THE
REMAINDER, ESTIMATED BY ZAIRIAN SOURCES AT 1500, ARE SAID
TO HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM KOLWEZI, HALF OF THEM RETREATING
ON FOOT DUE SOUTH TOWARD THE ZAMBIAN BORDER AND THE
OTHER HALF HEADED SOUTHEAST ON A CONVOY OF 70 TRUCKS. THE
CONVOY IS SAID TO HAVE AS HOSTAGES SIX FRENCH MILITARY
PERSONNEL AND AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF OTHER EXPATRIATES.
THE CONVOY WAS REPORTEDLY HALTED BY A DESTROYED BRIDGE
OVER THE MUKULESHI RIVER SOUTH OF MUTSHATSHA, AT WHICH
POINT IT LEFT THE TRUCKS AND PROCEEDED ON FOOT TOWARD
THE ZAMBIAN BORDER.

4. THERE IS APPARENTLY NO LONGER ANY THREAT TO THE EXPATRIATES IN KOLWEZI. ONE THOUSAND EUROPEAN EVACUEES ARE ALREADY REPORTED TO HAVE ARRIVED IN KINSHASA. IN ADDITION TO THE FRENCH AND BELGIAN AIRLIFT, THE BRITISH ARE PROVIDING AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT SOME EVACUEES FROM KAMINA TO LUSAKA. THE FRENCH HAVE REPORTED FINDING 60 EUROPEAN BODIES IN KOLWEZI, ALTHOUGH SOME REPORTS GO AS HIGH AS 150. ALMOST ALL HOUSES IN KOLWEZI WERE APPARENTLY LOOTED, ALTHOUGH SOME REPORTS CLAIM THAT FAZ SOLDIERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME OF IT.

5. WE HAVE INFORMED THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT, THROUGH ITS AMBASSADOR IN BRUSSELS, OF THE REPORTS OF HOSTAGES BEING SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 127879

TAKEN BY THE KATANGANS BACK TOWARD ANGOLA, AND HAVE REQUESTED THE ANGOLANS TO TAKE URGENT MEASURES TO ASSURE THE HOSTAGES' SAFETY SHOULD THEY ARRIVE IN ANGOLA. (THE ANGOLANS HAD TOLD US EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THEY WOULD PERMIT TRANSIT OF EVACUEES FROM SHABA.)

6. U.S. SUPPORT OPERATIONS. AS OF 1600 WASHINGTON TIME, MAY 20 THE USG HAS COMPLETED NINE C-141 MISSIONS TO KAMINA AB IN SUPPORT OF BELGIAN OPERATIONS. THESE MISSIONS POSITIONED 61,300 GALLONS OF JET FUEL AND 55 TONS OF AMMUNITION AND GENERAL CARGO. AS OF THE SAME HOUR THE UNITED STATES HAS FLOWN TEN C-141 MISSIONS IN SUPPORT OF FRENCH OPERATIONS TO LUBUMBASHI AND DELIVERED APPROXIMATELY 150 TONS OF MATERIAL. THE PRESIDENT HAS APPROVED THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM'S REQUEST FOR UP TO EIGHT ADDITIONAL C-141 SORTIES OF MUNITIONS/GENERAL CARGO. VANCE

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